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October 1944

FACT SHEET ON FAT SALVAGE

The Fat Salvage Campaign has brought in about 180,000,000 pounds of fats in the last 12 months. That's about one-tenth of the total production of all inedible animal fats which, in turn, comprise about one-fifth of our total supply of fats and oils.

It is estimated that 500,000,000 pounds of fats are wasted annually in households and eating places.

Housewives get 4 cents and 2 red points for every pound of salvage fat that they turn in to their butcher.

Salvaged kitchen fats go into the general pool of inedible tallow and greases. Of this total supply, about 20 to 25 percent is used in the manufacture of lubricants, fatty acids, and for other industrial purposes. The balance goes into soap, of which about one-fourth of our total production is used for war purposes -- mainly to the armed forces and for synthetic rubber and other special war commodities. Glycerine, vital in explosives, is a byproduct of the manufacture of both fatty acids and soap.

There is as great a need as ever for the Fat Salvage Campaign.

Background on Fats and Oils:

Our total supply of edible and inedible fats and oils is expected to shrink. For the year beginning October 1, 1944, the total U. S. supply may be about 700,000,000 pounds less than the supply in the previous year.

Imports for the year 1944-45 are not expected to rise; they may actually fall. Europe's demand will be large for some time to come. We cannot count on Oriental sources for any substantial quantity until a considerable time after the Japanese are driven out of the Philippines, Malaya, and the East Indies.

Total stocks of all kinds of fats and oils on hand as of August 1 were about 700,000,000 pounds above those of a year earlier, but this will be more than offset by lowered production this year.

Production of edible and inedible fats and oils in the United States for 1944-45 is estimated at 10 billion pounds, compared with the record output of 11.3 billion pounds in 1943-44 and 10.7 billion pounds in 1942-43.

Butter consumption in the last half of 1944 may reach the lowest per capita level in over half a century because of limited supplies. Production is

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estimated at 10 percent lower than last year and total requirements continue at high levels.

Lard was removed from rationing late in March, because heavy seasonal hog slaughterings temporarily boosted the supply. Storage space at that time was limited and was being used to capacity. However, lard production in the year beginning October 1, 1944 may drop as low as 2,500,000,000 pounds, compared with the 1943-44 record of 3,500,000,000 pounds and 2,860,000,000 pounds in 1942-43.

Shortening and cooking oils were removed from rationing in April because they are largely interchangeable with lard.

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